

the elementary school since the county reorganization include Ruth Scott, O.W. Howard, Samuel McGee, Arthur Jackson, Arthur Holmes, Jr., Legora M. Norwood, Joe Jennings, Sammy Armstrong, Linda Perry Robinson, Willie E. Norwood, Sr., and Johnnie Vick. Montresia Cain is the current elementary school principal. Principals who have served the High School are A.L. Moore, Sr., Willie Gates, Eltea Lambert, Robert Latham, Shelton Wilder, Jackie Campbell, Dr. I.D. Thompson, and Dr. Wanda C. Stringer. Shanequa Beal is the current high school principal. Mound Bayou Public School District was merged with North Bolivar School District in July, 2014, forming the new North Bolivar Consolidated School District. Mr. Johnnie Vick is the current Superintendent.

Mound Bayou has a rich and strong educational history. It has had and continues to have dedicated administrators and teachers. The students demonstrate the ability to achieve at all levels, and graduates compete, globally, in a wide cadre of professional fields. The Mound Bayou Public School System was definitely a successful educational organization. It is anticipated to have a continued high level of achievement for the students at I.T. Montgomery Elementary School and John F. Kennedy Memorial High School.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing an extraordinary educational institution the Mound Bayou Public School District.

JOAL MARTINEZ

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 26, 2016

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Joal Martinez for receiving the Adams County Mayors and Commissioners Youth Award.

Joal Martinez is a 10th grader at Vantage Point High School and received this award because his determination and hard work have allowed him to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Joal Martinez is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Joal Martinez for winning the Adams County Mayors and Commissioners Youth Award. I have no doubt he will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of his future accomplishments.

HONORING THE MACEDONIA MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

HON. ANDY BARR

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 26, 2016

Mr. BARR. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor a very special church in the Central Kentucky Area. Macedonia Missionary Baptist Church, located in Keene, Kentucky, was organized in

February of 1867. This year they will celebrate their sesquicentennial with one hundred and fifty years of ministry.

The original members of this church first worshipped as a part of a white congregation at Mount Pleasant Church. As they desired to form a church of their own, a committee of black members was formed. The church held its first services in a one room log cabin which also served as a school. The present building was constructed in 1874.

Over the last one hundred and fifty years, the church has grown physically with additions and upgrades of the buildings. Macedonia Missionary Baptist Church has been pastored by many fine ministers, starting with Rev. Peter Johnson in 1867 and leading to today's pastor, Rev. Reginald C. Davis. Many lives have been changed by the ministry of the pastors and the members of this church.

Macedonia Missionary Baptist Church has been called one of the best rural churches in Kentucky. As they celebrate this historic one hundred and fifty year anniversary, they continue their ministry to worship and serve God through Jesus Christ. I am proud to have visited the church and I am honored to recognize the historic Macedonia Missionary Baptist Church before the United States House of Representatives.

HONORING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE PRINCE WILLIAM COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF FIRE AND RESCUE

HON. BARBARA COMSTOCK

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 26, 2016

Mrs. COMSTOCK. Mr. Speaker, I would like to acknowledge the achievements and the 50th anniversary of the Prince William County Department of Fire and Rescue. In January of 1966, Prince William County hired its first paid firefighter, Phil Ponder. Ponder was the first of what is now over 600 Fire & Rescue personnel.

Prince William County holds a number of records such as the first jurisdiction on the east coast to implement a 911 system and the first jurisdiction in the state and national capital region to implement a physical agility exam for career firefighters. In addition to those achievements, the department hired the first female fire chief of a metropolitan-sized department.

I had the pleasure of meeting with Prince William County Department of Fire and Rescue Chief Kevin McGee recently where we talked about how the Department has evolved. Chief McGee always challenges his team to be on the cutting edge of firefighting and emergency rescue. Time and again Prince William County Fire and Rescue personnel have used their skills not only to help the people of Prince William County but also the citizens of Northern Virginia and beyond at their time in need.

Over the years, Prince William County Fire and Rescue has assisted with incidents like the 9/11 attacks on the Pentagon and with rescue efforts following Hurricane Katrina. Today, the department has 555 uniformed and 60 civilian staff providing service around the clock. It is one of three jurisdictions in the

Commonwealth with a delegated training authority for the Virginia Department of Fire Programs and is a partner in the National Capital Region Incident Management Team.

Mr. Speaker, in closing, I would like to acknowledge the achievements of the Prince William County Department of Fire and Rescue over the last 50 years and thank all of the staff, both past and present, for protecting the lives and property of the region. I offer sincere gratitude for their service to the community, the Commonwealth, and the nation over the past 50 years and know that high quality service will be engrained in the Prince William County Department of Fire and Rescue for generations to come.

HONORING MELVIN V. PRIESTER

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 26, 2016

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Councilman Melvin V. Priester, Jr., who is a proud alum of Murrah High School (valedictorian, class of 1997). In 2001, Councilman Priester graduated from Harvard College magna cum laude with a degree in social studies. Councilman Priester wrote his honors thesis on the use of religion by progressive political activists. While at Harvard, Mr. Priester was active in the Black Students' Association and student government; he was a jazz DJ at WHRB; and he served as a research assistant for then, director of the Children's Studies Program, Kiku Adatto.

Councilman Priester obtained his juris doctorate from Stanford Law School in 2004. While at Stanford, Councilman Priester was a member of the board of the Stanford Technology Law Review and participated in Stanford's civil rights clinic under noted scholar, Michelle Alexander, and the cyber law legal clinic under internet privacy activist, Jennifer Granick. Upon graduating from law school and until he joined Jackson's Priester Law Firm in 2008, Councilman Priester was a litigation associate in the San Francisco office of Morrison & Foerster LLP, where he advised clients in financial services, intellectual property, and governmental investigations. Councilman Priester has done pro bono and volunteer work for clients including: the Innocence Project of Northern California, the North Midtown Art Center, and numerous indigent clients.

At Priester Law Firm, a family firm, which has been opened since 1988, Councilman Priester represents a diverse set of clients in business litigation, governmental affairs, real estate, personal injury law, family law, and medical malpractice. Since 2011, Councilman Priester has been a regional producer for the Figment Arts Festival (www.figmentproject.org), a nationwide arts festival with significant events in New York City, Boston, Detroit, Jackson, Washington, D.C., and Pittsburg.

Councilman Priester is licensed to practice law in Mississippi and California. He is a member of the Charles Clark Inns of Court, the American Bar Association, the Magnolia Bar Association, and the Capital Area Bar Association.

In 2013, Councilman Priester graduated from the Mississippi Black Leadership Institute. He is a proud member of New Hope